by the Inspectresses of Schools on the basis of the population of villages recorded in the Census Statistics of 1921 and with reference to the requirement that the village should have a population of 2,000 and above in the case of non-Muhammadan girls and 1,000 and above in the case of Muhammadan girls.

(c) No.

(d) No.

(e) The preparation of new lists in accordance with the Census Statistics of 1931 will be considered when the Government are in a position to sanction new schools for girls.

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" Will the hon. the Minister be pleased to state whether the population of villages is the sole criterion for the location of girls' schools?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" That is the main criterion."

Mr. MAHMUD SCHAMNAD :—" May I know, in view of the fact that there are several mistakes and defects in the list of schoolless centres, whether the Government will be pleased to order the preparation of any correct list?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" As I have said, the question of revising the list with reference to the new census figures, will be taken up if financial conditions make it possible to open new girls' schools."

Mr. K. A. NACHIYAPPA GOUNDER :—" May I ask the hon. the Minister for Education why the presidents of local boards were not consulted when the lists of schoolless centres for the location of girls' schools were prepared?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR :—" That was a list prepared long ago; I cannot say without notice how it was prepared."

Fall in the strength of the Higher Elementary School at Srimushnam, Chidambaram taluk.

* 271 *Q.*—Mr. M. DEVADASAN: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) whether children of the Adi-Dravidas were admitted into the Higher Elementary School at Srimushnam in Chidambaram taluk, and if so, how many;

(b) whether a separate shed was assigned to them; and

(c) whether the strength of the school fell to 24 from 259 when the children of the Adi-Dravidas were allowed to sit side by side with the caste-Hindus?

A.—(a) Yes—five pupils were admitted on 20th April last and eleven more subsequently.

(b) Yes; the President, Taluk Board, on his own responsibility put up a temporary shed on 29th April behind the school-house for accommodating the Adi-Dravida boys. This was done in order to conciliate the caste parents who had withdrawn their children from the school since the admission of the Adi-Dravida boys. As the inspecting officers objected to the segregation of Adi-Dravida pupils the shed was given up after a few days' use.

(c) The attendance fell from 183 on 20th April to 21 on 24th April. It has subsequently risen and is now reported to be 130. The number of pupils on the rolls of the school which was 252 on 20th April is now 216.

Excise

Application of the communal Government Order to the cadre of Assistant Commissioners of Excise and Assistant Inspectors of Excise.

* 272 Q.—Mr. Abdul Hameed Khan: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(a) why the communal Government Order has not been applied to the cadre of the Assistant Inspectors of Excise, while it is being applied to a corresponding cadre in the Revenue Department, namely, Deputy Tahsildars;

(b) whether the Madras Services Commission has not in its last administration report expressed its difficulty in complying with the provisions of the communal Government Order in making promotions of Assistant Inspectors as Inspectors on account of undue preponderance of one community in the cadre of Assistant Inspectors;

(c) why the communal Government Order has not been applied to the cadre of Assistant Commissioners of Excise; and

(d) whether the Secretary to the Commissioner of Excise has always been an Anglo-Indian, and why an Indian with higher educational qualifications has not been tried?

A.—(a) The communal rule is applied to the selection by direct recruitment of candidates for admission to the Madras Excise Subordinate Service in the class of Assistant Inspectors. Where however promotions are made to the posts of Assistant Inspectors from the grade of Sub-Inspectors and Laboratory Assistants who belong to the same service, the communal rule is not applied, because the rule does not apply to promotions within a service.

(b) The hon. Member presumably refers to paragraph 18 of the report of the Madras Services Commission for 1931–32.